Subject: RELEASE: Councilmember Englander Calls for "Marijuana Amnesty Boxes" at LAX
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COUNCILMEMBER ENGLANDER CALLS FOR "MARIJUANA AMNESTY BOXES" AT LAX

LOS ANGELES - Today, 4/20, Councilmember Mitchell Englander will introduce legislation calling for Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) to install marijuana amnesty boxes so that passengers may surrender prohibited items before air travel. As of January 1, 2018, under California law, adults 21 and older can use, purchase, possess, and grow a certain amount of cannabis for recreational use. Although possession is legal in the City of Los Angeles, it remains illegal in any amount under federal law which has jurisdiction over air travel.

"We want to make sure that residents and visitors to Los Angeles can enjoy a bummer-free experience at our airport," Councilmember Englander said. "And while it is not encouraged that travelers have marijuana on their person when they arrive at LAX, this motion provides an easy remedy for the occasions when this does occur so that flyers can stay on the right side of the law. This legislation sends the message: surrender your supply before you fly."

LAX services over 84 million travelers each year. Those that mistakenly carry with them any amount of cannabis can be subject to a verbal warning, fine, or arrest. To mitigate the chance of a traveler being cited or arrested for possession of cannabis, several airports across the nation have installed "amnesty boxes" which allow individuals the opportunity to surrender cannabis without punishment before boarding flights.

With California the latest state to legalize the recreational use of marijuana, it is important to take necessary steps to inform and protect law abiding citizens by installing amnesty boxes at LAX.

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